Non-availability of essential commodities in tribal areas of MP

3235. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that essential commodities are not reaching the backward tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh through the Public Distribution System;

(b) whether Government are planning to take fresh initiatives for making these commodities available to the tribals in view of the prevailing high prices of commodities like edible oils which are beyond the reach of these tribals; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported that food-grains at subsidised prices are being distributed since January 1986 to the tribals in rural areas consisting of 276 ITDP blocks in 35 districts. In addition, 20 mobile shops are also in operation in the State for distribution of foodgrains at subsidised prices in the remote areas in 17 tribal districts.

(b) and (c) In actual operation of the Public Distribution System (PDS) there exists a dual responsibility of the Central Govt. and the State Governments. While the responsibility of the Central Government is to procure and allocate the seven essential commodities *viz.*, wheat, rice, sugar, soft coke, controlled cloth, kerosene and imported edible oils, the responsibility of the State Governments/ Union Territories is to lift these commodities from the Central godowns/ mills and distribute them to consumers in urban and rural areas through a network of fair price shops. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has already been advised by the Central Government to strengthen their PDS specially in backward areas, in order to ensure easy availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices. The Central Government is also proposing to substantially increase the allocation of imported edible oils to the State Government with effect from September, 1987.

Drainage System for Indore

3236. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had recently received any scheme from the Madhya Pradesh Government for providing underground drainage system for Indore town in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what is Government's response thereto; and

(c) whether Government propose to accord priority to this scheme in view of the fact that lask of proper drainnage system every year leads to epidemics and endemics of water borne diseases, affecting hundreds of people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Water Supply and Sanitation is a State subject. Schemes are formulated and implemented by the State Government after making necessary provision in their plan allocations based on *inter-se* priorities.

अकाल की स्थिति का सामना करने के लिए मध्य प्रदेश को वित्तीय सहायता

3237. श्री अजीत जोगी : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने राज्य में उत्पन्न अभूतपूर्व अकाल की स्थिति का सामना करने के लिए केन्द्रीय